484939.41 hectare has been brought under afforestation and 3867.83 lakh seedlings were distributed for plant-ting on private land in the last three years under the point on 16 of the 28 Point Programme.

(b) The Department of Wastelands Development nag, commissioned National Wasteianas JxtencuieaUo/t ject with the coitaOoiation of the National Remote Sensing Agency. Under this .Programme '&& districts ipi trie country having more than 5 per cent of tne geograpnical area as wastelands have been mapped. Precise inioimation regarding the whole country including Maharashtra is not available. However, according to one estimate, the extent *a'i* wastelands in Maharashtra is 14.48 million hectares. :

(c) The Department ot£ Wastelands Development is implementing various programmes for the development of non-forest wastelands through the schemes of Integrated Wastelands Development Projects, Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Agencies, Technology Development and Extension, Investment Promotional Scheme and Wastelands Development Task Force throughout the country including Maharashtra. These schemes are open for implementation by various Government and "Voluntary Agencies. Besides these schemes oif the Department of Wastelands Development, various other schemes of Government of India such as Drought Prone Areas Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme, Social Forestry Scheme, ar_e also under implementation through various departments of the Government of India and the State Government. Further, the State Government of Maharashtra has programmes to develop Wastelands on micro watershed barjjs aiftec doing actual survey in the villages selected under Watershed Conservation Programme. The State Schemes like Employment Guarantee Scheme linked horticulture, and Employment Guarantee Scheme lonked Social Forestry are being used for Development of Wastelands.

Bungling of one Crore Rupees by Engineers of Red

1467. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government atten tion has been drawn to the newsitem that appeared in the 'Indian Express' of NovemDer 8, 1994 regarding bung- (g of more than one crore rupees of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana funds *two* engineers of Rural Engineering Department (RED) at Ranchi in Bshar;

(b) if BO, the details and Governmen't reaction thereto; and

(c) whether it is a fact that neither oif them was given even a show cause notice after the fraud was detected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE TN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAM-ESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Th_e matter has been .erred to the Government of Bihar hich is the competent authority in the matter of disciplinary action against State Government officials.

New Sthenics based on foreign aid

1468. SHRI V. RAJ AN CHELLAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to rtate:

(a) whether Government are developing any new schemes solely based on foreign aid for the batterment of the living standards in rural areas;

(b) the steps taken to attract help to formulate rural development programmes:

(cl whether it is a 'Fact that local talent is being ignored due to such dependence on foreign agencies; and

(d) to what extent the new schemes will help formuljate such plans for rural development?

I LISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Government is not developing any new schemes solely based on foreign aid for the betterment oif living standards in rural arese. However, in respect of certain Projects under Rural Development Programmes hke Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) and Rural Water Suppy and Sanitation Programmes, some assistance is available from United National Children's Fund (UNTCEF) and World Health Organisation (WHO) in time to time.

UNDP Assistance

146S. SHRI V. RAJ AN CHALLAP-PA. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent, the efforts to obtain the UNDP assistance have succeeded;

(b) whether emphasis on foreign [1] I consultancies has been reduced.; :>nd

it, who will benefit from JN.DP schemes for rural deve-loprr.-

THpI MINISTER CF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Sir, This Ministry lias not sought any assistance from UNDP so far.

(b) and (c) Does not, arise.

Targets set **under JRY**

1470. DR. B. B. DUTTA; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to estate:

(ia) the targets set under Jawahar Rozjjf^r Yojana. State.wisc, during the last three years;

(b) how far these have been achie ved; and

(c) the steps taken l£or effective 'impitmen^ai(ion of Ithe Progi|amme, especially in backward, areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) The State wise employment generation targets fixed and the achievements made under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) during the last three years are given in statement. **(See** below)

(c) For effective implementation of JRY in the country, including the backward areas, the quantitative and qualita'dve implementation is monitored regularly. At the Central level, the implementation of JRY is reviewed through monthy, quarterly and annual progress reports, received from the State Governments, Beside Officers at the Centre, ,State Headquarters and districts, sub-divisions and block levels closely monitor all aspects of the programme^' through visits to worksites • State Level Co-ordination Committee (Si.CC) for rural development programme? also monitors the progress of Implementation of JRY alongwith other schemes.

The Government of India also rrriodically review the program mes with the State Government offi cers with a view to effecting impro. vement in the quality of implemen tation.

Recently, the Ministry has also introduced the Area Officers Scheme in which Te=ims have been formed oif he •senior officers of the Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Programme Implementation and the Planning Commission. Each Team has boon allocated one or two States where they visit regularly and give-feed back on implementation rt[p] rural' development programmes.